

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE: Incident Command & Building Incident Command

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Emergency Management Services (EMS) form an **Incident Command** when they respond to an emergency, especially when multi-agencies take action in response to situations like a large fire, natural disaster, shooters, suspect packages or bombings. They need information upon arrival (type, description and location of the emergency, the need to search for and rescue of known disabled and missing persons, types and numbers of injuries, how and where to shutdown building utility systems, etc.). The Incident Command/EMS is on the outside but needs to communicate with persons on/from the inside of the building.

The **Building Incident Command** (BIC) is the emergency staff formed by the tenant(s) inside of the affected building involved with emergency planning, response and recovery efforts. If you are management, a supervisor or a part of a BIC (Emergency Coordinator, Accountability Monitor, Floor Warden, Building Maintenance, Safety), the following free on-line courses offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are recommended (click on the course title to access):

### IS-100.a - Introduction to the Incident Command System

This foundational course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System (ICS). It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System. (3 hours)

## IS-700.A - National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction

This course introduces NIMS, a nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and other organizations to work together during domestic incidents. Included in the overview are Preparedness, Communications and Information Management, Resource Management, and Command and Management. (3 hours)

### IS-800.B - National Response Framework, An Introduction

This course is intended for government executives, private-sector and nongovernmental organization leaders, and emergency management practitioners – those who have a responsibility to provide for an effective multi-agency coordinated response. (3 hours)

Other FEMA NIMS courses are also available at: http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/NIMSTrainingCourses.shtm

Every BCB building has an emergency plan. BCB employees can access the password protected part of the Safety webpage for the Fire Prevention, Emergency Action and Homeland Security Plan with attachments for each building. This emergency plan has



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also been disseminated to BIC members in all BCB facilities. Additionally, EMS can access the Rapid Entry Emergency Information Cabinets on most of these buildings that contain books with BIC and building systems information. Incident Commanders for the City of Columbia Fire Department (look for the SUV with the flashing green light) were also provided this information for pre-planning and emergency response.

Questions: Contact BCB Safety/Resident Fire Marshals – Holly Bockow, 737-2311 or Bernie Lee, 737-2315